



# LifeComm



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## Message from Chairman

We had a wonderful thanksgiving and show of support from the donors, volunteers and staff at our 15th Anniversary Celebration on 9th April 2011. It was indeed from humble beginnings that the work started and is now able to reach out to several hundred children and their families in the Life Student Care (LSC), Friends of Children (FOC), Friends of Youth (FOY) and the MightyKids, Family and Community (MKFC) programmes.

Recently, we attended a most touching funeral wake. The father of 2 of our FOC children was hung. During the wake, we heard of how the father's life was changed by his new found faith. From a tough gangster whom even the prison guards feared, his transformed life was so evident that during the last moments while walking to the gallows, the guards treated him as a brother and walked with him all the way in this last journey. This man had also found peace at last.

This brings back the focus of LCSS' mission, to touch and make a difference in the lives of children and their families. There is nothing more rewarding than to see such transformation of lives. We foresee the struggles his 2 young children will face, but LCSS is committed to help them through.

Thank you for all your support and partnership.

**Goh Kng Yan**



## Message from Chief Executive Officer

We serve more than 800 children, youths and caregivers with various needs under our four core services. Without your partnership and generous support this will not be possible. **Special thanks to Mrs Wee Kim Wee and Ms Wee Eng Hwa** (author) for selecting us as one of the beneficiaries in the launch of the prestigious and historical cookbook "Cooking For the President". The book was officially launched by **President S R Nathan**.



We are proud to report that **many of our clients are back to contribute**. Some examples are as follows: a number of Friends Of Youth's (FOY) clients helped us run our Christmas Party booths, those in the guitar interest group contributed by performing at Seagate's Charity Dinner and our recent 15th Anniversary Event.

We are indeed encouraged to witness the overwhelming response at our **15th Anniversary & DVS Event** on 9th April. Many stakeholders and friends came to celebrate and witness the fruits of our labour. It was a great time to reflect on God's faithfulness with regards to Life Community's three phased journey - **Life's Genesis, Life Grows and Life Glows**. We were especially honored to have Ms Ang Bee Lian, CEO of National Council of Social Service as our Guest-of-Honor. She delivered a passionate speech that moved the hearts of many to partner us. Do log in to [www.life-community.org](http://www.life-community.org) to view her speech and the event photos.



**What keeps us going?** It's the smile and the joy on the children's faces. We grieve when we witness their suffering. Many of them are innocent victims of circumstances of their parents' doing. We look forward to work closely with you to bring **joy, love** and **hope** to them.

On **30th September** we will be having our **Charity Golf Event at Warren Golf & Country Club**. This year we hope to raise \$214,000 to fund the "I Coach U" initiative for FOC & FOY's clients with weak academic foundation, bursaries for Life Student Care & MightyKids, Family & Community, the purchase of 2 commercial vehicles to run programmes more efficiently and effectively since our FOC & FOY clients are located island-wide and to defray programmes' cost. Please help us buy flights or donate generously.

On behalf of the LCSS Board, I express our heartfelt appreciation to you in advance for your generous support and wish you good health and wealth always.

**James Wong**

# Friends of Children (FOC) and Friends of Youth (FOY)



Peter\* is a boy with special needs. He attends mainstream school. At age 14, Peter's classmates began to extort from him. This was the first of many incidences of teasing and bullying that Peter endured. However, Peter kept silent about it to avoid adding to the hardship of the family as they coped with his mum's incarceration and meeting their financial needs.

Peter's silence caused the bullying to escalate. At 15, he endured his classmates humiliating him while they recorded the incident on their camera phones. His classmates then posted the video on a popular social networking website. This video was viewed by his cousin who informed his parents and brought the bullying to the attention of his family, school and the caseworker of Life Community Services Society (LCSS).

Peter shared that he felt very hurt by his classmates. However, he does have true friends. These true friends are in FOY's guitar interest group which he attends weekly. "Youths in the group are like family to me. They are my true friends," shares Peter.

Peter was part of our FOC program that aims to provide care and support for children (7-13yrs old) with parent/s presently/formerly incarcerated. He has grown to be part of FOY which is an activity-based program to befriend and mentor youths (12-19 years old) with parent/s presently/formerly incarcerated, to equip them with life skills and impart values.

*\*Not his real name*

## FOC attends to **5** aspects of our clients' needs - "SPEED"

### Social – Activities, befriending and staff visitations.



Children involved in a self-esteem building activity with **Bartley Christian Church** as part of FOC's monthly activity.

200 FOC and FOY clients and volunteers had a splendid time at the 2010 Christmas Party organized, for the 5th year by the Event Committee - **Denus Ban** (Chairman), **Perry Siow**, **Jamie Yoeng**, **Hedy Lim**, **Derrick Teng**, **Cindy Ong**, **Cheng Wei**, **Trish Ang**, **Ray Oh**, **Susan Low**, **Simon Tan**, **Margaret Teng** and **Reuben Siew**.



### Physical – Monthly food ration and birthday gift.



Our caseworkers and social workers regularly celebrate the children's birthdays with them to show them that they are valued and remembered especially on this special day.

### Emotional/Psychological –

Counselling, guidance, enhanced guidance, self-esteem and anger management programmes.



Staff conducting in-house developed guidance programme with an FOC child.

### Educational – 'I Coach U' (ICU) tuition programme for those academically weak.



Academic support for a child who is struggling with his studies.

### Dollars – (Also known as financial assistance)

LCSS gives bursary and assists our clients in applying for social assistance schemes and employment referral for caregivers.





On top of "SPEED", FOY programme includes

4

other areas of development essential for the teenage years.



1

**Moral development** – Talks and discussions on relevant and current issues in the lives of the youths.

*We are thankful to Sheila, the key coordinator of **International Full Gospel Fellowship (IFGF)**, and the committee for organizing a youth day party while leaving the youths with some thoughts on love, sex and the difference. They also organized other activities, like prawning and BBQs for the youth.*



2

**Personality development** – Self-esteem and character building through activities.

*A girl overcomes her fear of heights as she takes on the high elements at an expensive but meaningful 2D1N camp sponsored by LCSS.*



3

**Skills development** – In developing practical skills, our youths learn diligence, responsibility and commitment. These skills are necessary in life as they grow into adulthood.

*Youths meet weekly to learn the guitar. Though novice, they contributed back to Life Community by performing at our 15th Anniversary and Seagate's Charity Dinners.*



4

**Relational development** – Youths learn socially accepted behaviors, how to relate to peers of the opposite gender and appropriate ways of relating to adults.

*A group of teenagers engaged in a problem solving activity during a chalet.*

## Corporate Social Responsibility



### Johnson and Johnson

A Sumptuous buffet lunch was hosted by Ms Flora Ng (VIP & CIO, Information Technology of J&J) and her team at Shangri-la Hotel for 28 FOC children. It is a rare opportunity for our children to dine in such a prestigious hotel. A magician and balloon sculptor were brought in to entertain our children. All the children were given a big warm hug by Flora herself and a watch as a Christmas gift. Our children had a great time of fun, food, gifts and above all, love, from J&J's team.

Other corporations that have blessed the lives of the children through funds raised, outings and activities include: **Seagate, Sheraton Towers, Verztec Consulting P/L, Korean Presbyterian Church, DBS bank, Deutsche Bank, Lorna Whiston, The Little Arts Academy, DG Food Packaging and Zion Gospel Church.**

## Our Challenges

1. We require approximately 100 befrienders to befriend and mentor the children and youths in our programme as the number of clients continues to grow.
2. We require approximately \$72,000 to provide tuition to 20 children and youths this fiscal year.
3. We need more corporations and individual donors to support our cause through fund raising and donations for the continuation of the running of the programme for our clients.

# Life Student Care (LSC)



Eric\* is a 9 year old boy who is usually polite, cooperative and calm towards his teachers. However, he has difficulty in relating to his peers. Eric was observed to have trouble controlling his emotions and would display sudden bursts of emotions towards his friends. As a result, Eric does not have many friends. Life Student Care Centre's teachers and supervisor gave him the space to learn to manage his emotions and guided him in building his social skills. With support from Eric's mother, the Centre staff has gone further to work with the school in referring Eric for school counselling to help him cope with the same challenges in the school setting. His mother has been very encouraged by the Centre staff's efforts.

LSC reaches out to primary school children in the community regardless of race, language or religion by rendering affordable quality before and after school student care services. All activities at the centre are focused around the "SPICES" programme which emphasizes on the total development of the child.

*\*Not his real name*



## Social

*Deutsche Bank* took our students for an educational field trip to The Singapore Discovery Centre.



## Physical

Students enjoying a day of kite flying with the **Boys' Brigade**.



## Intellectual

In addition to supervised homework and assessment work, our curriculum includes phonics and comprehension.



## Creative

Painting is just one of the many creative activities our students enjoy.



## Emotional

A teacher going the extra mile to comfort an unwell child until his parents arrive.



## Spiritual

Character building programme to impart moral values.

## Corporate Social Responsibility



Life Student Care has been blessed with a strong enrichment partner, **Lorna Whiston Schools Pte Ltd** who is known for being at the forefront of English Language education in Singapore. Lorna Whiston has gone the extra mile in developing 'Phonics & Reading' curriculum materials for our teachers to impart to our lower primary students. Our teachers have also attended skills upgrading courses such as "Strategies for Writing" and "Teaching phonics & Reading" at Lorna Whiston Schools. Beyond the academics, Lorna Whiston donated Chinese New Year goodie bags to bring cheer to our LSC children during the festive season.

Other corporate sponsors who have enriched our children's lives through engaging our children in educational field trips and brought joy to the children through their generous gifts are **Seagate, Singapore Press Holdings, DBS** and **Singapore Polytechnic Graduate Guild**.

## Our Challenges

We welcome parent volunteers and corporate sponsors to conduct enrichment activities to further enhance the lives of our children.



# MightyKids, Families and Community (MKFC)



A family recently shifted to the Telok Blangah vicinity from Jurong West. Their child, Samuel\* had difficulty travelling the long distance between school and home. His mother is a dialysis patient and his father works long hours. He soon stopped going to school. Samuel did not attend school for a few months and this was brought to the attention of MKFC. The staff and volunteers of MKFC proceeded to assist the family in officially withdrawing their child from the previous school and securing a place for him in a school within the vicinity.

MightyKids, Families and Community is a programme that believes in the potential and value of every child as well as the importance of the family unit being foundational to the growth and progress of the community. We seek to affirm each child and nurture them to live an empowered life through social and emotional support within a loving and learning environment.

Here are some of the highlights of the activities organized by MKFC.

*\*Not his real name*

## KidsREAD



*Children engaged in some activities and storytelling as part of the programme.*

## Donated food distribution



*Food generously donated by STMicronics distributed to needy families in the community.*



## Corporate Social Responsibility



**Capella Singapore** has generously sponsored light refreshments for the ongoing KidsREAD programme held at activity centre in Telok Blangah.

Another generous sponsor, **FJ Benjamin**, donated Christmas presents to the children at the centre.

## JOY! Carnival 2010



*A community carnival to strengthen parent-child relationship and promote community bonding through teamwork games.*





# 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

We celebrated our 15 years Anniversary and Donors, Volunteers and Staff (DVS) Appreciation Dinner on 9th April 2011. 'Transforming lives... Tree of Life' was the theme for the night as we appreciated all our partners for their commitment, faithfulness and 'heart'work. The occasion was graced by Ms Ang Bee Lian, the CEO of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS).



Our Guest-Of-Honor, Ms Ang Bee Lian, CEO of NCSS delivered a passionate speech that moved the hearts of the audiences to partner with LCSS.



Chairman of LCSS, Mr. Goh, welcomed everyone to our 15th Anniversary and DVS Appreciation Dinner.



At the end of James' speech, he rallied the continual support of the stakeholders and friends.



Founder, Dr. Tan Kok Beng, shared passionately the history of LCSS.







Pastor Joseph and Sis Maria were delighted by the performance put up by our little clients.



Our children did a heart-warming performance to entertain the crowd.



As James encouraged all to show and share love to the community & family, he paused his speech to give his good wife, Lily, a warm hug.



Auction Winner of Mrs Wee Kim Wee's Cookbook went to Mr Tay Mong Seng.



Elder Tony Lim and James thanked Canon James Wong for gracing the event.



Mr Desmond Chin, Deputy Director of Prisons and James having a warm handshake and warm partnership.



Ms Ang and Elder Tony Lim presented the Outstanding Partners Award to **Mr B S Teh**, Senior VP, Seagate (featured). Other winners include: **Ms Low Suet Lin**, a befriender, **Ms Sheila Nathania**, representing IFGF and **Ms Michelle Tan**, staff of LCSS.



Mr Goh and James presented the Token of Appreciation to Ms Ang.



Helen and Rafi happily cheering and clapping for all the performers.





## Case Study

- Step-father is in prison, biological father is missing.
- Mother has a low IQ and has 7 children.
- Three of them live with their grandma.
- Grandma is now sickly and cannot take care of them.
- Mother just gave birth to the 8th child who has not been discharged as she is unable to pay for the medical fee and birth certificate.
- The three children shared that they miss their mother a lot, especially the oldest boy.
- The three children will be placed in a children's home in early June.
- Children are anxious about the decision and need emotional (especially the oldest boy) and financial support.
- The children need preparation as they transit and adapt to a children's home.



## Donor & Volunteer Form

Please fill in your particulars, indicate your interest(s) clearly and fax it to **6387 3768**. Donor's personal particulars **MUST** be completed for tax-deductable receipts.

Name (as in NRIC): \_\_\_\_\_ \*NRIC/FIN No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No: (HP) \_\_\_\_\_ (O) \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### A) I would like to find out more about volunteering opportunities.

\*Personal/Corporate

(Please tick (✓) accordingly)

- |  |                          |                |
|--|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Befrienders   | <input type="checkbox"/> | (*FOC/FOY)     |
| 2. Tutors  | <input type="checkbox"/> | (*FOC/FOY/LSC) |
| 3. FOY event committee   | <input type="checkbox"/> | (FOY)          |
| 4. Fund-raising committee  | <input type="checkbox"/> | (LCSS)         |
| 5. Sponsorship of 'I Coach U' programme<br>(Tuition for 1 subject per child, per year - S3600) | <input type="checkbox"/> | (*FOC/FOY)     |

### B) I would like to donate to Life Community Services Society to help this worthy cause.

My contribution of S\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the work in LCSS is:

\*One time / Monthly / Annually

\*Personal / Corporate

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## AUTHORISATION FORM FOR CREDIT CARD PROCESSING

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributed Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Card: \*Visa / Master / AMEX / DINERS

Card Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Delete appropriately

## Life Community Services Society

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